

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 June 2004 (10.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/047527 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A01K 41/00, 41/02**

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/NL2003/000792**

(22) International Filing Date: **11 November 2003 (11.11.2003)**

(25) Filing Language: **Dutch**

(26) Publication Language: **English**

(30) Priority Data:
1021890 11 November 2002 (11.11.2002) NL

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **T. METER HOLDING B.V. [NL/NL]; Houtvesterlaan 19, NL-3903 DH Veenendaal (NL).**

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **METER, Tjitzie [NL/NL]; Houtvesterlaan 19, NL-3903 DH Veenendaal (NL).**

(74) Agents: **VAN WESTENBRUGGE, Andries et al.; Nederlandsch Octrooibureau, Scheveningseweg 82, P.O. Box 29720, NL-2502 LS The Hague (NL).**

(81) Designated States (*national*): **AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.**

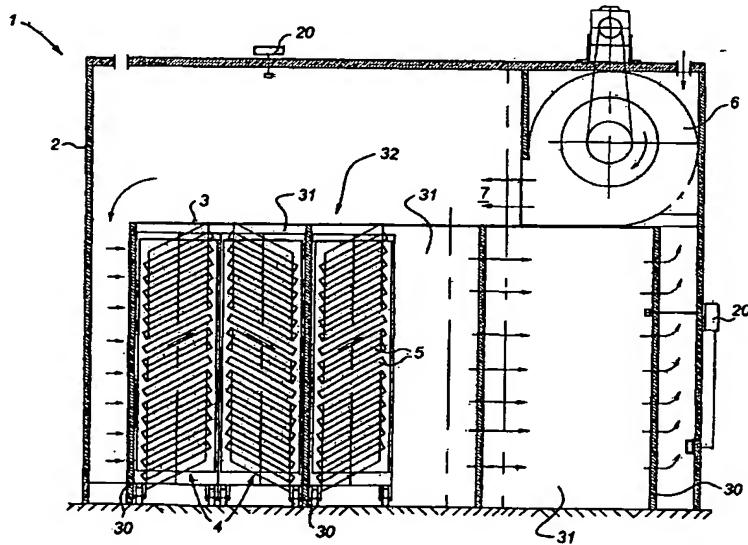
(84) Designated States (*regional*): **ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR CLEANING AN INCUBATOR, AND AN INCUBATOR



WO 2004/047527 A1

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for cleaning an incubator and to an incubator (1) designed for carrying out the method. The method involves disinfecting the incubator, or at any rate the climatic chamber and/or removable parts present in it during the incubation process, by means of a disinfecting heat treatment. Said heat treatment can comprise a step in which the incubator, or at any rate the climatic chamber, is heated to a temperature of at least 50°C, in particular a temperature of approximately 58° to 65°C, for at least 25 minutes. The invention further relates to an incubator (1), in which the temperature regulating means used for the incubation process are further designed for carrying out a disinfecting heat treatment in the climatic chamber.